

Carroll County
Student Government Association
Constitution

Preamble

We, the students of the Carroll County Student Government Association, in order to promote inter-school relations, provide ideas for member student governments, initiate and promote improvements and activities for the general wellbeing of the students of Carroll County Public Schools, provide opportunities for students to share their opinions with other students and the Carroll County Board of Education, do ordain and establish this constitution.

Article I: Name and Affiliation

Section 1 - The name of this organization shall be Carroll County Student Government Association, herein referred to as the Association.

Section 2 - The official abbreviation of the Carroll County Student Government Association shall be CCSGA.

Section 3- The Association derives all of its power and authority from member student governments and their constitutions.

Section 4- The Association shall maintain cooperation and affiliation with the Carroll County Board of Education, the Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC), and the National Association of Student Councils (NASC).

Article II: The General Assembly

Section 1- The General Assembly shall be comprised of the following:

- A. Elected and appointed officials of the Association.
- B. Delegates from member student governments, to be appointed by each home school.
- C. Elected officials of the Maryland Association of Student Councils attending public schools in Carroll County.
- D. Delegations of students representing the private schools of Carroll County.

Section 2- The General Assembly shall have the authority to:

- A. Enact legislation.
- B. Appropriate and secure funds.
- C. Impeach and try officers, as referred to in article eight.
- D. Expel or suspend member Student Governments.
- E. Elect officers.
- F. Amend the current constitution or ratify a new one.
- G. Act on all official business of the Association.

Section 3- All powers not specifically granted to the Executive Board by this constitution shall be granted to the General Assembly.

Article III: Attendance and Voting

Section 1- High Schools

- A. Each high school may send as many delegates to CCSGA General Assembly meetings as there are interested.
- B. Only 25 delegates out of the above said shall receive a vote.

Section 2- Middle Schools

- A. Each middle school may send as many delegates to CCSGA General Assembly meetings as there are interested.
- B. Only 10 delegates out of the above said shall receive a vote.

Section 3- Private Schools

- A. Any delegates from private schools attending CCSGA General Assembly meetings do not receive a vote.

Article IV: Elected Officer Qualifications

Section 1- The President and Vice-President

- A. Must be a member of either the junior or senior class during the term of office.
- B. Must have at least one year of membership in the General Assembly prior to election.
- C. May hold office for more than one year.
- D. May not be the President or Vice-President of a member Student Government.
- E. Must abide by the Carroll County Eligibility Regulations for Extracurricular Activities.

Section 2- The Logistics Coordinator

- A. Must have at least one year of membership in the General Assembly prior to election.
- B. May hold office for more than one year.
- C. May not be the President or Vice-President of a member Student Government.
- D. Must abide by the Carroll County Eligibility Regulations for Extracurricular Activities.

Section 3- The Second Vice-President

- A. Must be in the eighth grade during the term of office.
- B. Must abide by the Carroll County Eligibility Regulations for Extracurricular Activities.

Article V: Nominations and Elections

Section 1 - Each candidate for office must receive and complete an application form. The candidate must also solicit fifty endorsed signatures at his/her home school and file both forms with the Association's advisor before the date specified on the application.

Section 2 - Elections for President, Vice-President, Logistics Coordinator, and Second Vice-President shall be held at the April meeting of the General Assembly of the year prior to the commencement of office.

- A. All candidates for these offices shall be required to speak before the General Assembly for a certain time which is to be set by the Executive Board.

B. After all candidates have spoken, the voting members of the General Assembly shall cast their votes by secret ballot. The Advisor(s) shall leave the room and count the votes.

C. After the votes are counted, the results shall be announced and the newly elected officials shall perform any required ceremonies before taking office.

Article VI: Mandatory Staff Appointments

The President of the Association must appoint one person to each of the following staff positions. The duties of these positions are as follows:

Section 1 - The Parliamentarian of the Association shall:

- A. Advise the President on matters of parliamentary procedure.
- B. Assume the duty of maintaining order at all meetings.
- C. Call members out of order during General Assembly meetings.
- D. Act as consultant with regard to the Constitution.
- E. Aid in the revisions of the Constitution.
- F. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.
- G. Perform any additional duties assigned by the President of the Association.

Section 2 - The Historian of the Association shall:

- A. Take pictures and keep mementos from all CCSGA events and functions.
- B. Compile a scrapbook of the Association depicting events of the year, to be presented at the final General Assembly meeting.
- C. Perform any additional duties assigned by the President of the Association.
- D. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.

Section 3 - The Charity Coordinator

- A. Research possible charitable activities that could be performed by the Association.
- B. Make recommendations to the President and the Executive Board regarding the possible charitable activities.
- C. Perform any additional duties assigned by the President of the Association.
- D. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.

Article VII: Executive Board Duties

The Executive authority of the Association shall be vested in a President and an Executive Board, consisting of the officers of the Association enumerated in this Article and state officers from Carroll County.

Section 1 - The President of the Association shall:

- A. Be elected for a one year term and shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.
- B. Serve as the presiding officer of the Executive Board and General Assembly and delegate authority as deemed necessary.
- C. Call regular meetings of the Executive Board with the consent of the advisor.
- D. Attend, when possible, the monthly meetings of the Carroll County Board of Education.

E. Appoint by and with the consent of the Executive Board, the Parliamentarian, the Historian, the Charity Coordinator, and such other staff that shall be required to serve at his/her discretion during his/her term of office.

F. Serve as Chairperson of the Association's delegation to the convention of the Maryland Association of Student Councils.

G. If the President of the Association is unable to attend meetings of the Maryland Association of Student Councils then he/she shall appoint a representative who acts in place of and assumes all responsibilities including voting privileges.

H. Will not have a vote in either the Executive Board or the General Assembly except in the case of a tie.

Section 2 - The Vice-President of the Association shall:

A. Be elected for a one year term and assume all duties of the President when he/she is unable to discharge those duties.

B. Assist the President in all activities of the Association.

C. Assist the advisor of the Association as Chairman of the Election Committee.

D. Perform any additional duties as assigned by the President.

E. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.

Section 3 - The Logistics Coordinator of the Association shall:

A. Assume the duties of the President when both the President and the Vice-President are unable to discharge those duties.

B. Act as fiscal officer of the Association.

C. Present and interpret the financial report to the Executive Board and the General Assembly when necessary.

D. Maintain the roll and all correspondence of the Association.

E. Record and distribute the minutes of the Executive Board and General Assembly meetings.

F. Perform any additional duties assigned by the President of the Association.

G. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.

Section 4 – The Second Vice-President of the Association shall:

A. Be elected to serve a one year term.

B. Act as the official liaison between member middle schools of the Association and the Executive Board.

C. Encourage the participation of middle school student councils in MASC and MASC regions.

D. Aid regional middle school representatives in the development of middle school programs within that region.

E. Serve as a voting member on the MASC Executive Board.

F. Perform any additional duties assigned by the President of the Association.

G. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.

Section 5 - The School Presidents and Vice-Presidents shall:

A. Present any appraisals, complaints, or any other matters of importance to the Executive Board and/or General Assembly.

B. Attend all Executive Board and General Assembly meetings of the Association.

C. Inform the Association of all local Student Government activities.

D. Inform their home school delegation of meetings of the Association.

E. Prepare their facilities for Association meetings held at their school.

F. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.

Article VIII: The Student Member on the Board of Education
and the Student Member Elect

Section 1 - Election of the Student Member Elect

- A. At the November Executive Board Meeting, all eligible candidates who have completed their Election Packet on time will be interviewed and discussed
- B. Each member of the Executive Board shall cast a secret ballot vote for one nominee. The three candidates receiving the most votes from the Executive Board will be placed in the election.
- C. Preceding the vote by duly authorized voting members of the General Assembly, the three candidates for each office must, for a ten minute period, present themselves before the General Assembly as follows:
 - 1. Giving appropriate remarks about their service to the Carroll County students.
 - 2. Answering questions raised by the General Assembly members.
- D. A secret ballot vote will be conducted and the candidate receiving a simple majority of votes of the General Assembly will be elected to the office

Section 2 - The Student Member Elect shall:

- A. Attend all Executive Board and General Assembly meetings of the Association along with monthly Board of Education meetings.
- B. Collaborate with the Student Member on the Board of Education.
- C. Serve for a one year term to shadow the current Student Member.
- D. Serve in place of the current Student Member in the event of absence, resignation, or removal from office.

Section 3 - The Student Member on the Board of Education shall:

- A. Voice the opinions and the needs of the students of Carroll County to the Board of Education.
- B. Attend all Executive Board and General Assembly meetings of the Association along with monthly Board of Education meetings.
- C. Present to the Board of Education such Acts and Resolutions of the CCSGA that he/she deems pertinent and appropriate.
- D. Participate to the fullest extent in the actions and deliberations of the Board of Education.
- E. Make a full report of the proceedings of Board of Education meetings to the CCSGA General Assembly.
- F. Be entitled one vote at all meetings.
- G. Collaborate with the Student Member Elect.
- H. Represent the Association at meetings of the Maryland Association of Student Councils.
- I. Represent the Association at the meetings of the Maryland Coalition of Student Members of Boards of Education.

Article IX: The Executive Board

The President has the authority to bring the Association's Executive Board together as a voting body to act on behalf of the General Assembly when it is not convened in general session and cannot be convened in a timely fashion. When acting on behalf of the

General Assembly, the Executive Board has the power to enact legislation, make appropriations, and secure funds. The Executive Board, acting on behalf of the General Assembly, may adopt and resolve among itself any indecisive assembly issue that it sees fit. All elected and appointed members of the Executive Board, excluding the President, and all Member High School Presidents and Vice-Presidents, are entitled one vote at all meetings of the Executive Board.

Article X: Resignation and Removal from Office

Section 1 - Resignation of the President

The President shall signify his/her intentions in letters to the advisor and Vice-President with the date resignation is to become effective.

Section 2 - Resignation of all other officers

The resigning officer shall signify his/her intentions in a letter to the President and the advisor of the Association.

Section 3 - Removal from office

Any member of the Executive Board may be removed from office for failure to fulfill mandatory qualifications or failure to perform his/her duties as stated in Articles III and Article V.

Section 4 - Removal Process

A. Any member of the general with sufficient probable cause to question the competency of an officer of the CCSGA must request from the President a hearing before the Executive Board, where the accusations will be presented.

B. The charges will be investigated by the Executive Board at their next regular meeting following the accusation hearing and the officer(s) charged will not be allowed to participate in the investigation. A two-thirds majority of the Executive Board is needed to present the charges before the General Assembly. A summary of the investigation must be presented in addition to the rationale behind the decision of the Executive Board.

C. In the event the President is charged, the Treasurer will head the investigation.

D. The General Assembly shall then vote on removal from office by secret ballot. A two-thirds majority vote in favor of removal shall be necessary.

E. If a quorum of three quarters of the General Assembly is not present, no removal vote may take place.

Article XI: Vacancies in Office

Section 1 - The office of President shall be filled by the Vice-President.

Section 2 - The office of Student Member Elect shall be filled in the same manner it is chosen, though the interviews and elections must be conducted in the same month.

Section 3 - The offices of Vice-President, Treasurer, and Second Vice-President shall be filled by Presidential appointment and must be approved by a simple majority of the General Assembly.

Section 4 - All other positions shall be filled in the same manner as they were originally chosen.

Article XII: Parliamentary Authority

Section 1 - The Parliamentary law of the CCSGA shall be governed by those principles set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition unless those principles come into conflict with a governing act or document of the Association.

Section 2 - Amendments to the Constitution of the Maryland Association of Student Councils shall be considered binding when applicable.

Article XIII: Constitutional Amendments

Section 1- Amendments to the constitution must be pre-filed by presentation before the Executive Board. The Executive Board will review the proposed amendment for clarity, artistry, understanding, and fluency. A legislative work session will be held during the next General Assembly meeting. Delegates may openly debate the amendment in question, and then the General Assembly shall vote on approval or denial. Amendments to the constitution must receive a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly.

Section 2- The Executive Board, while reviewing the proposed amendment, has the power to deny its movement to the General Assembly.

Section 3 - For consistency in technical areas the President shall appoint, when he/she deems it necessary, a person to review the Constitution and make any changes needed for the document to be grammatically correct, provided that the intent of the clause is not changed. Any such changes must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Article XIV: Ratification

The Constitution of the Carroll County Student Government Association shall be ratified and shall come into full effect upon receiving a two-thirds majority vote of the General Assembly. If a quorum of one half of the General Assembly is not present, no ratification vote may take place. All elected and appointed members of the Executive Board shall witness the ratification and pledge to uphold the new document by signing a constitutional agreement.

*Note: When this document is reviewed by the next Constitutional Revisions Committee, the signatures of Treasurer and Secretary will no longer be applicable and the signature of Logistics Coordinator will be required. At such time this note may be removed from the document.

Sarah Nicholson, President

Gordon Lyons, Vice-President

Thomas Schuster, Treasurer

Amber Shriver, Historian

Lori Taylor, Secretary

Lauren Hickey, SMOB

Elizabeth Welliver, SMOB Elect

Kenny Wise, 2nd Vice-President

Carlyn Thompson, Charity Coordinator

Cole Moore, Parliamentarian